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ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Twenty-first Annual Session

—OF THE—

SELMA ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

CENTER RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

CARLOWVILLE, ALA.

JULY 15 AND 16, 1903

L. JOHNSON, MODERATOR

J. L. JACKSON, CLERK

W. L. R. CAHALL, ASSISTANT CLERK

M. H. TRAYLOR, TREASURER

STANDING COMMITTEES



State Missions—H. S. D. Mallory, J. E. Dunaway, J. J. Babcock.

Home Missions—J. L. Gross, J. B. Ellis, Ernest Lamar.

Foreign Missions—W. L. Cahall, A. Edwards, J. C. Yates.

Denominational Education—Richard Hall, H. S. D. Mallory, Law Lamar.

Ministerial Education—J. L. Jackson, B. F. Ellis, J. W. Bailey.

Temperance—F. M. Stilwell, J. A. Maulden, J. P. Maxwell.

Sunday Schools—Frank Averyt, W. T. Weisinger, D. B. Edwards.

Woman's Work—W. P. Welch, T. E. Williams, R. B. Hare.

Denominational Literature—W. J. Ray, F. M. Stilwell, Miles Hardy.

Orphans' Home—T. F. Hendon, Law Lamar, T. P. McCrary.

MINUTES

CENTER RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH, July 15th, 1903.

The Selma Baptist Association met in its twenty-first annual session. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. T. F. Hendon.

The former Moderator being absent, Bro. T. F. Hendon was called to the chair. A hearty welcome was extended to the messengers and visitors by the pastor, W. J. Ray; response by W. L. Cahall.

A committee consisting of J. R. Crumpton, R. B. Hare, M. H. Traylor, was appointed to prepare roll of messengers present.

After a recess of ten minutes the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. W. L. R. Cahall on John 21:10.

The Committee on Enrollment reported as follows:

Pleasant Hill—J. R. Crumpton, J. P. Maxwell, F. C. Riggs, J. W. Bailey, C. L. Butler, T. F. Hendon.

Carlowville—Joe Swink, J. W. Jackson, W. A. Powell.

Town Creek—B. Whatley, W. L. R. Cahall.

Mt. Gilead—James Boyd, M. H. Traylor.

Sister Springs—J. P. Melton, W. D. S. Morgan, Ed Smoke.

Benton—R. H. Hudson.

Selma 1st—Dr. J. L. Gross, H. S. D. Mallory, T. P. McCreary, F. M. Stillwell.

Selma 2nd—J. L. Jackson, R. W. Bomes.

Providence—Lewis Johnson, J. R. Hines, J. R. Moss.

Bethany—A. Edwards, I. N. Lyon.

Shiloh—P. S. Hain, J. M. Lide.

Orrville—R. B. Hare, W. C. Cowan.

Ash Creek—J. S. Wood.

The Association then went into organization and elected officers as follows: Lewis Johnson, Moderator; J. L. Jackson, Clerk; W. L. R. Cahall, Assistant Clerk; and Marion Traylor, Treasurer.

Visitors were received as follows: Rev. W. B. Crumpton, of State Board of Missions; S. O. Y. Ray, of Alabama Baptist; and Col. J. T. Murphree, President of Marion Military Institute.

Bro. T. F. Hendon was appointed to prepare and read report on Ministerial Education, and Bro. R. H. Hudson on Temperance.

On motion, the Association adjourned to 2 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After devotional exercises the programme prepared for the Association by the Executive Committee was read by Bro. H. S. D. Mallory.

On motion, programme was adopted.

Bro. Mallory then read the report on Denominational Education. Discussed by H. S. D. Mallory, W. B. Crumpton, J. T. Murphree, J. L. Gross, and was adopted.

Report on Denominational Literature was read by Bro. W. L. R. Cahall. Discussed by brethren S. O. Y. Ray, J. L. Jackson, W. B. Crumpton, T. F. Hendon, and was adopted.

The committees to report at this session were appointed as follows:
On Finance—H. C. Yates, B. Whatley, J. R. Hines.

On Nominations—F. M. Stillwell, R. B. Hare, P. S. Hain.

On State of Religion in the Churches—J. L. Gross, A. Edwards, James Boyd.

On Time and Place—H. S. D. Mallory, J. C. Yates, M. H. Traylor.

On Apportionment—J. R. Moss, F. M. Stillwell, W. C. Cowan.

Chairman on Sunday Schools not being ready to report, a motion was carried to discuss the subject in regular order and to have report read later. Discussion by J. L. Gross, W. B. Crumpton, F. M. Stillwell, S. O. Y. Ray and H. S. D. Mallory.

Adjourned with prayer by Bro. S. O. Y. Ray to meet at 7:45 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

Devotional exercises by W. L. Cahall. Sermon by Bro. J. L. Gross from Rev. 2:17.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Devotional exercises by Bro. J. S. Wood. The Association was called to order by Bro. J. L. Jackson.

On motion of Bro. Gross, the reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions were ordered read consecutively and the general subject of Missions discussed.

The report on State Missions was read by W. B. Crumpton; on Home Missions by W. L. Cahall; on Foreign Missions by J. L. Jackson. Discussion by J. L. Gross, W. B. Crumpton, W. L. Cahall.

At 11:30 a. m. the missionary sermon was preached by Bro. Richard Hall, from Romans 1:16. After sermon a collection was taken amounting to \$13.00.

On motion, reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions were adopted. Adjourned to 2:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After singing and prayer by Bro. E. E. George, report on Ministerial Education was read and discussed by Bro. T. F. Hendon.

On motion, report was adopted.

On motion of Bro. Gross, all speeches, except that of chairmen, were limited to five minutes.

Report on Temperance was read by Bro. R. H. Hudson. Discussed by brethren Hudson, Hall, Crumpton, Gross, and adopted.

Report on Woman's Work was read. Discussed by brethren J. R. Crumpton, R. Hall, W. B. Crumpton, and adopted.

Report on Spiritual Condition of the Churches was read by Bro. J. L. Gross. After discussion by the chairman and others, it was adopted.

Report on Orphans' Home was read by Bro. J. C. Yates and adopted.

Report on Sunday Schools was read by Bro. F. M. Stillwell, and adopted.

On motion of Bro. Gross, the Executive and Co-operative Committee was instructed to secure a man to further the interests of Sunday schools in the Association.

The Committee on Time and Place reported as follows:

Your Committee on Time and Place recommend that the next session of this Association be held with Providence Church, beginning the first Wednesday after the second Sunday in July next.

H. S. D. MALLORY,

J. C. YATES,

M. H. TRAYLOR,

Committee.

Adopted.

Bro. Stillwell read the report of the Committee on Nominations, as follows:

Resolved, That the Executive and Cooperative Committee be again instructed to undertake to increase associational attendance by corresponding with the different churches at the proper time, requesting them to send a full quota of messengers, and that the following brethren compose the committee: J. L. Gross, J. R. Moss, M. H. Traylor, Richard Hall, A. Edwards, J. R. Crumpton.

Delegates to the Baptist State Convention: Lewis Johnson, J. C. Yates, B. F. Ellis, M. H. Traylor, J. R. Moss, W. P. Welch, F. M. Stillwell, Miles Hardy, D. B. Edwards.

Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention: Lewis Johnson; alternate, J. C. Yates.

To preach the introductory sermon, Bro. W. J. Ray; and to preach the missionary sermon, the pastor of Second Baptist Church.

Fraternally,

F. M. STILLWELL,

R. B. HARE,

P. S. HAIN,

Committee.

Adopted.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. J. L. Jackson, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are hereby most cordially extended to the members of this church and community for their charming hospitality during the session of our Association.

The apportionment report was adopted as follows:

Your Committee on Apportionment recommend that the following amounts be paid by the churches during the next associational year:

CHURCHES	Missions	Ministerial Education	Orphans' Home	Howard College	Total
Ash Creek	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 2 00	\$ 17 00
Benton	10 00	5 00	5 00	3 00	23 00
Bethany	30 00	10 00	10 00	3 00	53 00
Center Ridge	40 00	15 00	15 00	10 00	80 00
Hopewell	25 00	10 00	15 00	5 00	55 00
Emmanuel	40 00	10 00	15 00	5 00	70 00
Mt. Gilead	70 00	25 00	35 00	10 00	140 00
Macedonia	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	20 00
New Bethel	5 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	20 00
Orrville	750 00	75 00	100 00	100 25	1025 00
Pleasant Hill	70 00	25 00	30 00	10 00	135 00
Providence	120 00	45 00	40 00	25 00	230 00
Ruhama	5 00	5 00	20 00	5 00	35 00
Shiloh	70 00	15 00	20 00	10 00	115 00
Sister Springs	10 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	25 00
Selma 1st	1500 00	150 00	200 00	250 00	2100 00
Selma 2nd	150 00	25 00	25 00	25 00	225 00
Town Creek	120 00	25 00	50 00	25 00	220 00
Totals	\$3025 00	\$ 460 00	\$ 600 00	\$ 513 00	\$4598 00

F. M. STILLWELL,
J. R. MOSS,
W. T. COWAN,
Committee.

Committees to report at next session were appointed as they appear on inner front cover.

There being no further business the Association adjourned.

J. L. JACKSON,
Clerk.

L. JOHNSON,
MODERATOR.

W. L. R. CAHALL,
Ass't Clerk.

REPORTS

DEMOMINATIONAL EDUCATION.

The rapid development and growth of the State school and the almost certainty that it will remain as a permanent feature of our society, demand the solution of the question: "Shall the denominational school be maintained or abolished?" It is a very practical question and one that is of great moment. There is no necessary antagonism between the two; but competition now exists and will become stronger in the future. If the denominational school has a good reason for future and permanent existence—if it fills a place that cannot or is not filled by the State school,—if there is any danger to society in committing to the State the exclusive education of the youth of the country—then the Baptists and the other religious denominations should, with renewed, earnest zeal and effort, cultivate and support denominational education.

By denominational education, we mean education in schools ranging from the High School to the University, which are maintained and conducted by a religious denomination: in short; an education, which while both moral and religious, must also be as wide and thorough in general culture and training as can be obtained in the State school.

Our State schools are in a large measure devoid of direct religious training. We do not mean by this that the religious element is absent from the State schools, for when conducted by Christian teachers this element cannot of course be entirely absent; but as a matter of fact, the Bible is not taught in most of these schools, and where direct objection is made can not be.

In Alabama, the text books to be used in the State schools are selected by a State Commission. This Commission is now composed of learned and safe men, but the time may come when the teaching in these schools may be out of harmony or in conflict with our beliefs as a religious body.

The very fact that religious training is being, and will in the future be more and more eliminated from the schools, will naturally and inevitably result in drawing away the pupil's mind and thought from religious contemplation. If the foregoing facts and deductions are true, then it is vitally important that the denominational schools be not only maintained but also multiplied in number and increased in equipment and efficiency. To do this, means sacrifice and loyalty, for the denominational school must not be inferior, but must be equal to the State school in every educational facility.

The Baptists in Alabama are indeed fortunate in this respect. The Judson Institute is worthy of our best devotion and support. No institution of similar aims is superior to it in the South, and under the able management of Dr. Patrick it has surpassed its former record.

Howard College has taken on new life under the Presidency of Dr. Moutagne. Everywhere in the State, confidence in this institution is growing, and we do not doubt that it has a bright future awaiting it. Much of this future success will be due to the wise work of its former president, Dr. Roof, and to that of its consecrated faculty.

Under the control of the State Convention, there has been established a Baptist Institute at Scottsboro, in Jackson county. Much is

expected from this school, for it is located in a section of the State that is full of white Baptists, and we hope that Baptist education will there advance abreast with the rapid material development now in progress in that district.

While not under the control in any way of our State Convention, nevertheless the Central Female College at Tuscaloosa is essentially a Baptist institution. Dr. Giles, its consecrated and able president, and Dr. Dawson, the Tuscaloosa bishop, have made it a school worthy of our best support and patronage. Its influence for good and for Baptist principles cannot well be over estimated.

Fraternally submitted,

H. S. D. MALLORY,
Chairman.

DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

Your Committee on Denominational Literature beg to report as follows:

There is a great deal of importance attached to Denominational Literature. The value of its good cannot be overestimated, for in it we find the very salt which tends to strengthen one's Christian life, as well as stimulate our religious duty, and thereby prove beneficial to us, as a denomination. It should be cheerfully recommended and liberally supported by us.

There are many books and periodicals such as published by Baptist S. S. Board, Nashville, Tenn., and our Southern and Alabama Baptist, which if found in our homes would help to mould in our children, characters which would ripen into true manhood and true womanhood.

We believe it our duty to give our children a religious atmosphere in which to grow, therefore we must place before them such literature as will strengthen and elevate their christian and moral life.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. MAXWELL,
For Committee.

STATE MISSIONS.

The State Board of Missions was organized about twenty-eight years ago. The Alabama Baptist came into being about the same time. These two agencies co-operating together, through the years, have been the means of growth developing Baptist interest in Alabama. The Board is charged not only with mission work in the State but, as its name implies, it is expected to foster the interests of the Home and Foreign Boards as well.

This report is to deal only with that part of the Boards work which pertains to our own State.

We learn from the Secretary that the number of missionaries employed is larger than last year, and the contributions are larger also.

Twelve thousand dollars were asked for and the books of the Board, which closed yesterday (15th), it is hoped will show that we have gone beyond those figures.

The Board could easily employ two hundred men if it had the means. The increase of population in the factory and mining towns and the new settlements of the country where the timber has been taken from the land call for more preachers and more houses of worship, and it is the business of the Board to supply them as far as

possible. There are colonies of Northern people and Foreigners locating in Alabama. Many of the new comers are Baptists and our Board must extend to them the hand of welcome and assistance. The conditions in our own territory are peculiar and very serious. Throughout the Black Belt of Alabama, the white people are leaving the country and many of our churches are becoming weaker—the very existence of some of them is seriously threatened. Your Committee would earnestly recommend that at least three meetings be held through the year to embrace the fifth Sundays. If the pastors will attend, with such help as can be brought in, great influences will go out to encourage the churches. This will go out to encourage the things that remain.

This is the best sort of mission work and that without the expenditure of a cent of mission money.

We would recommend that protracted meetings be held in all the churches—the pastors, as far as possible, assisting each other. A general revival in the churches is our greatest need and whatever will bring this about, will be the greatest missionary agency. Where the pastors cannot assist, help should be secured elsewhere.

God stands pledged by his promises, to hear the cry of his people and bless the labors of his servants. We have a few weak churches in our bounds, which are pastorless. Protracted meeting should be held with these at once and pastors secured for them. The State Board of Missions is ready to assist us in any practical plans that may be suggested. We are glad to learn that Hopewell (Mt. Willing) has secured the services of Brother Catts and has good prospect of becoming a strong church. The State Board is helping them with a small appropriation. It has come to our ears that Ash Creek (Gordonsville), is taking steps to secure a pastor. We believe that Macedonia, New Bethel, and Ruhama (Farmersville), are yet pastorless. If good meetings could be held with these this summer, a pastor might be located on the eastern border of our Association. We must not give up the churches in the Black Belt. At no distant day conditions will change and this splendid section will again flourish. Your Committee could point you to numbers of places where the wisdom of holding on to weak churches has been demonstrated. With God's blessing upon our labors and the spirit of co-operation prevailing among us we will hold this country for Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. Moss.

HOME MISSIONS.

The work of our Home Board may be divided into mountain work, Cuban work, frontier work, work among the negroes, and work among the foreign population.

In the Apalachian mountains there is a vast population peculiar to themselves. The mountaineer knows no common place in his convictions or in his friendships,—he is thoroughly for or against every man and measure brought before him.

The Cuban work comprises the western end of the Island, and work has been started in the Isle of Pines.

The frontier work is an effort of the Board to keep pace with the tide of population as it moves westward and prevent the frontiersman from forgetting the God of his fathers.

The work among the negroes has been along the line of employing the most promising among that race, to train their ministry and en-

deavor to inculcate among the masses a higher degree of those virtues in which the negro is sadly deficient.

But the work among the foreign population seems to be the most important, especially in so far as we are concerned as a Christian people. We must either convert them to Christianity or they will crush us with their Atheism and heathenism. Catholicism in its most degraded, and therefore worst, form holds numbers of these people in its power and wields them as the power by which it hopes to subvert the institutions of our country and of our churches. Your Committee cannot too strongly urge upon the churches the importance of giving more liberally to Home Missions.

The Board reports 8969 baptisms for last year and 9716 received by letter.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. CAHALL,

For the Committee.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Never before have Southern Baptists had such occasion for joy and thanksgiving as at the present time. The success of our work during the past year has been most gratifying.

When the Convention met at Norfolk in May, 1898, we had in the field 76 missionaries, 117 native helpers, 102 churches with a total membership of 4760. During the year previous \$114 249.60 was contributed for the work, and 701 baptisms were reported.

At the Savannah Convention reports showed for the previous year 127 missionaries, 192 native helpers, 157 churches with 8880 members, number of baptisms 1790 and amount contributed \$218,512.62.

This great increase within the last five years is directly attributed to the great wave of Missionary enthusiasm that has spread over our entire country enlisting many pastors and churches which had hitherto been indifferent to the work. Nearly all churches also have greatly enlarged their contributions. City churches which formerly gave \$100.00 to \$200.00 now give from \$500.00 to \$1200.00, and country churches which were contented to give from \$2.00 to \$10.00 now send up from \$50.00 to \$100.00.

This shows that our people are preaching, praying and studying missions as never before, and their ears, hearts and purses are responding to the gospel call in behalf of a lost world.

Our next year is full of promise and hope, relying on the faithfulness of God and his people, our Foreign Board is laying out plans on the basis of \$300,000.00 contribution.

Our Theological Training Schools in China, Africa, Italy, Mexico and Brazil are doing excellent work in training native preachers upon whom will fall the ultimate burden of evangelization.

Our medical Missionaries are doing a great work, not only in administering to the poor and needy, but in reaching the higher classes which are difficult to approach for religious instruction.

Under the advice of the Convention a new Mission Station has been opened in the Argentine Republic. Brother S. M. Sowell of Virginia has been appointed as the first Missionary.

Let every pastor and every individual member of Christ's Kingdom climb upon Calvary's Mount and view a lost world for whom Christ died and ask himself the question:—"Am I, and is my Church doing what God expects toward carrying "The gospel to *every crea-*

ture." Our Lord does not expect us to do *more* than our duty, but he demands us to come up to the *full measure* of duty.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. JACKSON,
For the Committee.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

We your Committee beg leave to report the following:

We are living in a wonderful progressive age. We see advancement on every hand. The want of Literary and Scientific Education is sweeping over our great country. This fact calls for an educated ministry. This fact makes it a necessity. God's Word is "a lamp to our feet and a light to our pathway." In that Word we find the truth for every soul that will bring to it salvation. In order for this truth to be presented to the individual it must be mastered and presented in a simple way. To master the truth we must have our minds trained.

For this purpose there has been established under the providence and wisdom of God, Howard College at East Lake and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary located at Louisville, Ky.

There were twenty-five or thirty ministerial students at Howard College last session and 250 students at the Seminary.

These institutions are the property of the Baptists. Let us support them with our prayers and means.

While it is necessary that the minds be educated, let us not forget the training and education of the heart. This is to be received in the school of Christ. Let us find ourselves bowing at his feet with teachable souls drinking in the great truths of his blessed teaching.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. HENDON.

TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee can but report from all the facts that confront us, that those engaged in the sale of intoxicants are at all times exerting every known means to increase the business, thereby increasing their profits, enhancing their property and supporting their families at the cost of thousands of sinners; and at the same time knowing they are making thousands of orphans, widows, beggars, convicts and murderers.

Your Committee would urge all Christians to put forth a strenuous and united effort to stop the greatest known evil to the Christian religion of our Lord and country.

R. H. HUDSON,
For the Committee.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Your Committee beg leave to report, to the best of their ability, as follows: We must confess, in the start, that we are somewhat at a loss to know what sort of a report is expected of us by this Association. Whether to report what has been done within the bounds of this Association by women, or to report woman's general work in "Woman's Missionary Union Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention. The quiet faithful work of woman has been going on all along the ages, seen or unseen, acknowledged or unacknowledged, For years they have had their little aid societies, &c., and have done

far more than their part of Church work. Woman has never asserted herself or organized for systematic church work, until a call was issued in Louisville, Ky., in 1887, 16 years ago. They have held their annual meetings ever since in connection with the Southern Baptist Convention—all to themselves. Mrs. E. A. Stakely, of Montgomery, has been President for four years, until Mrs. Jno. A. Barker, of Virginia, was elected at the Convention in Savannah, Ga. Vice Presidents are elected one from each State. Miss Anna W. Armstrong, of Maryland, is Secretary. As to "Woman's Missionary Union" in the Selma Association, they first met in Selma in 1899, four years ago. This immediate work in our own Association needs to be better organized. Notwithstanding some opposition and criticism to this advance movement in woman's work, every step has been marked with progress and success. And to-day they can exclaim: Hitherto hath the Lord helped us!

To give you an insight, as to woman's work, let us produce a little summary of last year's work.

CONTRIBUTED.

Cash to Foreign Mission Board	\$36,852 57
" " Home " "	19,295 38
" " S. S. Board	255 84
(407 boxes to Home Missionaries	31,916 45
Christmas offerings to China	7,534 27
<hr/>	
Total amount	\$98,058 87
Annual expenses	3,162 44
<hr/>	
Net gain for 1 year	\$94,896 43

They have given in the past 14 years in the South \$792,631 07. They have given in the State of Alabama \$8,530 24. We are further rejoiced to state that we have increased facilities for reaching our women; through the courtesy of the editor of the *Southern Alabama Baptist* a paper has been given to woman's work, and through the kindness of our Board we have a State Organizer, Mrs. T. A. Hamilton, who will endeavor to recruit the ranks of Woman's Missionary Union with the winsome young ladies of our land, before the cares, and in some cases, the frivolities of life lay seige to and capture them. Christianity is the element which elevated woman, hence it is no wonder she should deem it her privilege and duty to take part in all Christian work and endeavor. Woman had her part in the transgression, therefore it is her duty to help man regain favor with God.

In the heathen world woman was a slave to man. Christianity has constituted her his companion and help meet in all the relations of life. In every avenue of life his co-worker, and in union there is strength. The influence of woman's co-operation in the salvation of the world is now felt and recognized. And wherever we find woman interested, religion has most power, and *vice versa*. In her secret missions and quiet way woman is lending a firm and helpful hand to renovate the world—she does not have to thunder from the forum; she does not desire to usurp the authority of men, but simply to occupy her heaven-given place—

1. Yes, does not the Bible teach us
 Woman was the first to tell
 Of her risen Lord and Saviour,

How He burst the bands of hell?
 And did He not say unto her,
 Go, and tell them I have risen,
 That I have not yet ascended
 To my father's home in heaven?

2. Then there is a sacred duty,
 Which you may be called to do;
 And its work is more important
 If to God and man you're true.
 'Tis to help to form a household,
 Making it a second Eden,
 Spending all your time and talents,
 Fitting precious souls for Heaven.
3. Yes, we mothers of this Nation,
 We have greater power than all,
 If we teach this Mission spirit,
 To our children when they're small.
 These are they, these little children,
 Who will rule this world in time,
 And just how we should instruct them,
 Is a work—Oh! how sublime.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. CRUMPTON,
 For Committee.

STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

During the year there has been a slight increase in the total membership within the bounds of our Association, though not quite so large as that reported last year.

Only four of our churches report increase by experience and Baptism, and only six had received increase by letter.

We are profoundly grateful to the giver of all good for these evidences of his favor; but we are painfully aware that our growth is not commensurate with our needs and that our present conditions call for the putting forth of renewed and extra exertions.

We beg to recommend

1. That prayers with strong crying and tears be made in all the churches that such a spirit of genuine consecration shall take possession of the hearts and lives of all our people as shall result in large fruit bearing.

2. That all our pastors make effort to get into close touch with each other in the spirit of advance into which God is evidently leading his people.

3. That our Executive and Co-operative Committee be urged to carry out the suggestions made last year and in addition that said Committee endeavor to hold Rallies or Institutes with all our churches looking to an increase in spirituality, zeal for winning souls, and missionary, educational and denominational interests.

4. That said Committee arrange for a three days or at least two and a half session of the next Association.

5. That said Committee arrange a schedule of offerings seeking to carry out the apportionment.

J. L. GROSS,
 A. EDWARDS,
 J. T. BOYD.

ORPHANS' HOME.

The Orphan's Home is on the up grade. About one hundred children are now there. They have been in very straitened circumstances, and money is badly needed to come in regularly for their maintenance.

The churches are urged to contribute liberally to the support of this institution.

J. C. YATES,
For the Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

A synopsis of last year's report is as follows: Nine churches of this Association located in Dallas county, namely, Center Ridge, Orrville, Pleasant Hill, Providence, Shiloh, Sister Springs, Town Creek, Selma First Church and Selma Second Church, reported a Church membership of 908 and a Sunday School enrollment of 547.

Bethany Church in Lowndes County reported church membership of 36 and Sunday School enrollment of 50.

The other six churches in Lowndes County report no Sunday Schools.

The nine Dallas County Churches have 60 per cent. of members enrolled in Sunday Schools. But considering that membership consists mostly of adult people the number should be multiplied by two to really represent the total of all ages contained in family and subjects for Sunday School. On this basis it will be seen that the proportion of Sunday School enrollment to total population is only 30 per cent.

The statistics given in last year's report show that the actual proportion of Sunday School enrollment to total *white* population for the whole county of Dallas was 30 per cent.

No improvement of this condition can now be reported. It is the same today, and upon analysis shows that:

The total Church membership of Selma Baptist Association is	1,130
Total of families, all ages (1130 x 2)	2,260
Total Sunday School enrollment, all ages	678
Leaving the number out of Sunday School	1,582
Of which 351 are 1 to 7 years old.	
" " 703 are 8 to 21 " "	
" " 528 are 22 to 100 " "	
It seems, therefore, that the church membership being	1,130
And Sunday School enrollment	678

That the difference or 452 are graduated from Sunday school.

We think it is fair to assume that these 452 are a part of the 528 aged 32 to 100 years, and that it is almost a waste of ammunition to shoot at them.

But what is the Sunday Schools doing for the 703 aged 8 to 21 years NOT MEMBERS OF EITHER CHURCH OR SUNDAY SCHOOL?

And what are the parents doing for the 351 aged 1 to 7 years? The committee tells you that the Sunday School, or teaching service of the church, is being woefully neglected mostly in that, you fail to

count noses and see to it that these 703 subjects are brought inside of Sunday School influence.

Your Sunday Schools can be strengthened as to organization, and your methods of and facilities for teaching greatly improved, for the State Mission Board and Sunday School Board hold out to you every available modern help. You have only to ask and every possible assistance will be rendered.

But the ultimate and real success of this religious educational work will depend upon the personal efforts of your officers and teachers, which, if exerted, will receive God's blessing.

The pastors also must get into Sunday School harness, and there must be a general awakening to the crying needs of this work, and a determination to overcome all obstacles.

Preaching, teaching and praying are the three great works of the church. Give to each full emphasis.

F. M. STILLWELL,
J. E. DUNAWAY,
B. P. MOSELEY,
Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

M. H. TRAYLOR, Treasurer,

Aug. 14, 1903—To Selma Association,		
To amount received from Finance Committee.....		\$65 88
By Voucher (No. 1) W. B. Crumpton.....		\$46 13
“ “ (No. 2) Lewis Johnson.....	X	19 75—\$65 88

Respectfully submitted,

M. H. TRAYLOR.

STATISTICS OF SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1903.

CHURCHES	COUNTY	PASTOR	CLERK'S NAME AND POSTOFFICE	Increase				Present membership	Officers and Teachers	Pupils	SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME AND POSTOFFICE
				Baptism	Letter Restoration	Letter	Exclusion				
Ash Creek	Lowndes										
Benton	"										
Bethany	"	W. L. Caball	I. N. Lyon, Collirene					28	5	45	A. Edwards, Collirene
Center Ridge	Dallas	W. J. Ray	H. J. Yates, Carlouville					43	4	28	W. A. Rowell, Carlouville
Hopewell	Lowndes										
Emanuel	Dallas										
Mt. Gilead	Lowndes	W. L. Caball	M. H. Traylor, Benton								
Macedonia	"										
New Bethel	"										
Orrville	Dallas	R. Hall	W. H. Gross, Orrville								
Pleasant Hill	"	T. F. Hendon	F. C. Riggs, Pleasant Hill					51	17	5	
Providence	"	R. Hall	J. R. Moss, Orrville					70	1	1	
Rubama	Lowndes							71	7	71	
Shiloh	Dallas	W. L. Caball	P. S. Hain, Sardis						8	1	
Sister Springs	"	F. Averyt	G. W. Ernest, Benton					69	1	1	
Selma 1st	"	J. L. Gross	E. Graham, Selma					38	2	1	
Selma 2nd	"	J. L. Jackson	J. S. Mauldin, Selma					314	17	3	
Town Creek	"	W. L. Caball	G. R. Feulner, Polk					209	2	11	
								56	1	1	

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF SELMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1903.

CHURCHES	MISSIONS			Orphans' Home	Aged Ministers	Pastor's Salary	Howard and Judson	Visiting Ministers	Minute Fund	Poor	Incidentals	Church Repairs	Sunday Schools	Value Church Property	Other Objects			
	State															Foreign		
	\$	\$	\$													\$	\$	\$
Ash Creek																		
Benton	7 66	3 74	2 52	10 00		125 00	5 00		50			100 00	5 95	2500 00	50			
Bethany	13 70	5 75	5 00	20 75		150 00						130 00	9 35	2000 00				
Center Ridge																		
Hopewell																		
Emanuel																		
Mt. Gillead	24 37	6 61	57	12 25		150 00			2 00				5 46	1500 00				
Macedonia																		
New Bethel																		
Orrville	200 69	135 39	300 01	181 91	25 00	437 50	100 00	120 00	4 00		60 38	28 70	28 16		15 00			
Pleasant Hill	26 45	15 49	18 90	23 60		173 25		5 00			12 00	5 00	23 55					
Providence	26 90	21 05	18 70	40 50	13 85	350 00	* 130 00	83 00	3 00	65 25	16 13		10 00	3500 00				
Rutana																		
Shiloh	7 00	5 00	4 00	2 00		200 00	3 70		2 00					1000 00				
Sister Springs	1 80	7 32	1 86	11 20		113 30						27 12	5 15	500 00	3 00			
Selma 1st	383 65	250 00	550 00	211 50		900 00	250 00	144 00	5 00	72 00	1650 95		63 30	5000 00				
Selma 2nd	19 10	13 20	11 10	11 00		225 00	2 60	72 30	3 00	14 00	99 15	68 75		4000 00	65 52			
Town Creek	10 00	5 25	15 30	5 20		350 00	71 30	21 30	3 00	3 00	10 40		9 26	2350 00				

*\$100.00 for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Associational collection for Missions, \$13.00.









